

**MINUTES
WAYNE COUNTY ETHICS BOARD**

Wednesday, September 18, 2019 – 9:00 A.M.

Hearing Room 704, Guardian Building, 500 Griswold, Detroit, MI, 48226.

- A. Roll Call 9:12 a.m.
- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------|
| Carron L. Pinkins (C) | - Present |
| Edward McCall Thomas (VC) | - Present |
| Sandra Bucciero | - Present |
| Sue C. Carnell | - Excused |
| Mona Hammoud | - Present |
| Freman Hendrix | - EDS (9:25) |
| Robert P. Young | - Present |
- B. Thomas/Bucciero **Approved.** The minutes from the July 10, 2019 meeting. Motion Carried.
- C. Unfinished Business
- D. New Business
1. Thomas/Young **Motion Approved:** Communication from Wayne County Treasurer Eric Sabree. Motion: To adopt the recommendation of Avery Williams, Ethics Board Counsel, that the Ethics Ordinance states that those accused of violations cannot be reimbursed by the Ethics Board for legal costs, and that the Ethics Board is not authorized by the Ethics Ordinance to appropriate funds
- The Board discussed the matter with Mr. Williams and Felicia Johnson, Wayne County Commission Counsel.
2. Thomas/Bucciero **Passed for the Day:** Communication from Kelsha Lynum, re: a Treasurer's Office employee
- The Board discussed the matter with Mr. Williams and Ms. Lynum.

3. Young/Thomas

Motion to dismiss the complaint without prejudice: Communication from Ashley K. Eyler, re: a Wayne County elected official

The Board discussed the matter with Mr. Williams

Ms. Bucciero voted no.

4. Thomas/Hendrix

Motion Approved: Communication from Denice J. Alexander, et al., re: a Circuit Court Employee.

The Board discussed the matter with Mr. Williams and Ms. Johnson, and Commission staff confirmed with the County's Department of Personnel/Human Resources that the Circuit Court employee named in the complaint, Tracey M. Gilbert, is a County employee and not an employee of the Michigan State Court Administrative Office.

A recess was called at 10:14 a.m., and the meeting was resumed at 10:19 a.m.

Motion: For Mr. Williams to send the complaint to Ms. Gilbert for her response.

E. Such other matters

Mr. Williams said he will communicate with Ms. Lynum, and ask if she will need an auxiliary aid for the next meeting she attends because she is hearing-impaired. Mr. Williams will notify Commission staff if she does.

The Board discussed with Mr. Williams and Ms. Johnson a request to Commission staff from Christine MacDonald of The Detroit News to receive the backup information for Items D. 1 through 4 on today's agenda. Mr. Williams said he will provide her with the copies, with personal information redacted.

During the discussion, Mr. Thomas left at 10:31 a.m. and Mr. Hendrix left at 10:33 a.m.

Bucciero/Hammoud

Motion approved: That an Ethics Board policy be established that future requests for backup information be honored, subject to redaction of

personal information by the Ethics Board counsel.

Mr. Williams informed the board that he has submitted suggested changes to the Ethics Ordinance (Enrolled Ordinance No. 2014-734) to Commission staff in response to board study sessions held earlier in 2019, and that the changes can be reviewed at the next meeting. He also advised that he possibly will make additional changes to that document before then.

The next meeting will be held at 9:00 a.m. Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

F. Public Comments

Comments were made by Beverly Kindle-Walker.

Young/Hammoud

Adjournment: 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Octavia Hunter
Legislative Research Assistant

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